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USA TODAY'S SPECIAL REPORTS FROM THE CAPITAL

CIA keeping silent on report of KGB defector

The CIA on Sunday wasn't talking about — and Sen. Patrick Leahy said his Senate Intelligence Committee knew nothing about — a senior KGB major general who reportedly defected to the USA last year. U.S. News & World Report magazine reports this week:

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The defector — the highest ranking of five defectors who sought U.S. protection last year — was reportedly settled somewhere in the Midwest.

He was smuggled out of East Germany in late April or early May, then hidden to prevent press leaks that might have upstaged the Geneva summit in November.

The CIA's Kathy Pherson: "We don't comment on defectors." Leahy, D-Vt. and the intelligence committee's vice chairman, said the CIA denied any defector existed.

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